

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
FREDERICK SENIOR CENTER
August 13, 2012**

DOA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Dennis Ford	Kitty Devilbiss	Rae Ann Butler	Hal Ehart	
Diane Julian	Sue Ramsburg	David Gray, Comm		
Mary Rice	Pat Rosensteel	Millard Haines		
Pat Tudor	Carolyn True	Carol Krimm, Alderman		
Steve Wilhide		Louise Lynch		
Dan Yeeles		Debra Savageau		
		Virginia Skelley		
		Robert Wannemacher		

- I. **Call to Order** – Carolyn True called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Carolyn welcomed all attendees.
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – There were no additions to the agenda.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – There was not a quorum of members today so the June 11 minutes were not approved at this meeting.
- V. **Commissioner's Report** – Commissioner Gray was not present at today's meeting. Belinda Teague-Levy was present and talked about

the DoA being on the BoCC agenda for approval of the Fiscal 2013 Area Plan and Senior Care Annual plan.

Commissioner Gray was not here today because he was attending a local hearing regarding the future of the Jeanne Bussard clients. This is an agency which assists local disabled citizens with job skills and employment. It has recently had some drastic changes at the management level.

Alderman's Report – Alderman Krimm was not present at today's meeting. However she did send information regarding the Maryland Task Force to Study the Renovation and Repair Needs of Senior Homeowners. This task force was scheduled to meet on August 9th in Crownsville, MD. This task force was authorized by House Bill 991 and requires the involved parties to research the issue and report their findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by the end of this year.

- VI. Status of Aging Needs Assessment, Pat Rosensteel** – Pat Fleet is the grant specialist for the County and she has been researching the Community Development Block grant. The expectation is that this grant will be awarded to help fund the local senior Needs Assessment. The fact that this assessment is geared toward lower income and elderly population will assist with the approval process. The grant amount is \$40,000 with a local match of \$8,000 to \$10,000.
- VII. LGBT Conference, Carolyn True** – This conference will be held at Frederick Community College on March 8, 2013 from 9:00am until 3:00 pm. There will be a planning meeting in August to set the agenda. There may be more information available in September.

Discussion of the FY'13 Area Plan and Senior Care Annual Plan, Carolyn True – Carolyn stated the Area Plan is a explanation to the State on how the DoA will be spending federal, state, and local funding. Due to the recent Census results, there was a slight increase in the federal funding amount. The Plan is a breakdown of how the funds are spent on specific services. Some of the programs utilizing these funds are the senior centers, transportation to the centers, and the congregate and home delivered meals. The Senior Care Annual plan explains how the Department of Social Services will spend the Senior Care allocation. The majority of these funds go toward direct services to vulnerable seniors. The Senior Care program provides in-home aides to acutely ill seniors. There is a waiting list for Senior Care services. There is also a waiting list in the Caregiver program for people who need respite funds. The MoW program had a deficit at the end of the recent fiscal year. The department may put an emphasis on encouraging participants contribute towards the cost of the meal.

There was some discussion on being more proactive in publicizing the human and fiscal costs. This is a very generous community and perhaps citizens are not aware of the true need.

Due to timing, there was not an opportunity for the CoA to review these Plans before they were submitted to the BoCC for approval. However, RaeAnn did review the Area Plan and submitted some comments and additional information. The Area Plan will be available on the website once it has been approved by the Maryland Department of Aging.

Elder Expo, October 3 at the Frederick Fair Grounds, Carolyn True – The Elder Expo will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd this year from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. It will be held at the Frederick Fairgrounds. A sign-up sheet was sent around the table to volunteer time for the CoA table at the event.

TSAC, Alderman Krimm – Alderman Krimm was not present at today's meeting. She did want to let the CoA know that Transit is not been able to hire part time drivers and they have been directed to not hire full time drivers. This causes an inability to meet the demand for transportation services. Sherry Burford, the Director at Transit, will be retiring at the end of September.

State CoA, Louise Lynch – Louise was not present at today's meeting. No report.

PiC, Diane Julian – Diane was not able to attend the last meeting. Carolyn did attend. The budget was discussed at the meeting. At this time, the agency is breaking even and there are no scheduled furlough days. They are reviewing the budget in anticipation of a need to trim costs in the future.

Nominating, Diane Julian – The planned advertisement requesting new members was not sent out in July. There is still one person who has been interviewed and is interested in joining the CoA. There has been no communication from Hal Ehart. Diane will contact him.

Affordable Housing Council, Dennis Ford – Dennis attended the meeting last month. Emphasis at that meeting was a discussion on the Land Trust. A land trust is the commitment and maintenance of a land purchase to be used for a specific service permanently. There were site visits made to two areas where a project may be started. One is an area near the Frederick Towne Mall and the other is located at Catoctin View Apartments on Motter Avenue. The latter would be a renovation project with possible expansion to the Sharpe's Florist

building to include residential as well as commercial. This is a long process.

There was some discussion on who is moving in and out of the county. It was suggested there are seniors moving from other counties because it is more affordable here. This query could be included in the Needs Assessment. It was also suggested that many people are moving from Frederick County to Pennsylvania and West Virginia because this area is too expensive. It would be insightful to explore the population that is moving into the county. Some seniors move to this area to be closer to their families.

Friends of MoW, Louise Lynch - Louise was not present at today's meeting. No report.

USM, Ginny Skelley – Ginny was not present at today's meeting. No report at this time.

Adult Public Disabled Review Board, Mary Rice The next meeting will be held on September 10th. Mary will plan to attend that meeting.

MAP, Kathy Schey – Kathy was not able to attend today's meeting. Carolyn reported that the planned Senior Tax Credit seminars have been very popular. Two additional sessions have been added to the original one scheduled. The deadline for the credit application is September 1, however historically the deadline has been extended. If the deadline is extended, there is the possibility of holding another seminar at a later date.

Director, Carolyn True – Carolyn distributed a monthly report.

State grants were closed out on June 30th. All monies from state funds were spent. There were some county funds left. The federal grants will end on September 30th.

There is a wait list in the Caregiver Program for respite funds. The amount which can be requested and awarded is \$250 per year. The hope is that more funding will be available for respite on October 1st when the federal allocations are released. The amount would not be increased. The hope is that more people would be served.

There continues to be a waiting list for the MoW program, specifically in the Crestwood area. The Middletown expansion is still being considered. There is a community meeting on August 21st at 7pm at the United Church of Christ in Middletown. This program will rely almost entirely on community support. There are thirty people in this area that would benefit from this expansion. There is a tremendous

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need for a volunteer coordinator for the MoW program. There is a true lack of volunteer coordination in Frederick County. There was a suggestion that this issue be added as an agenda item to explore possible ways to create and fund a paid volunteer coordinator position.

The CoA sent a letter of objection to the BoCC when there was a proposed rate increase for Transit services. There was a question of whether a letter was sent to object to the increases in taxicab rates. Historically a letter has not been sent to the City of Frederick or the General Assembly to protest the taxicab rate increase.

It is very important to forward any concerns to the BoCC. Concerns can be sent by postal mail, email, or by phone. There was a suggestion to publicize any unmet needs once a month. One option would be to do a guest editorial in a local newspaper. Another suggestion is to have a panel discussion on Channel 19 or to do a "This Week in Frederick County" episode with Commissioner Young. Items of concern could also be added to Commissioner Gray's website.

VIII. Announcements, All – The next CoA meeting will be held in Urbana on September 10th starting at 11:00 am. Lunch is offered at the senior center at 12:00.

There will be a senior picnic at the Rocky Ridge Park on August 22nd. Reservations are needed by August 16th.

IX. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

September 25, 2012. CoA Executive Committee meeting, 1:00 at Department of Aging

October 3, 2012, Elder Expo, Frederick Fair Grounds

October 8, 2012, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at **Citizens Care and Rehab, 1900 Rosemont Avenue, Frederick, MD**